

Providence, April 6, 1855.

Dear Wife:

MS. A. 1.1 v. 7, p. 12B

The news you send me in regard to a subscription that is being raised for me, among those who desire thus to show their friendship and appreciation of my Anti-Slavery labors, takes me by surprise, and fills my breast with grateful emotions, whether the effort prove successful or not. I have seen so many similar attempts end in miserable failures, that I shall not be disappointed if this shall meet with the same fate; though the generous lead of Mr. May's father, and the good auspices under which the movement has been projected, look like something in earnest. If one like our friend Mr. May, of Leicester, would give himself to the work of seeing persons, in various places, with subscription-book in hand, no doubt a considerable amount might be raised. But, whether it succeed or not, I shall be none the less grateful to those who have set it on foot. Of

course, it is for us as a family to say little or nothing about it to others, at present. When the fact is made public, we shall then have to recognize it with suitable thankfulness. If it prove a success, it will indeed remove from me a heavy load of anxiety in regard to the future; for as years press upon us, we are more and more made conscious that we cannot achieve in the way of labor or enterprise what in earlier years it was an inspiration to grapple with.

You know how mortified and disappointed I was in regard to the failure of the subscription testimonial for our dear and most deserving friend George Thompson. The John Brown testimonial was a similar slump. Do not be too sanguine of success in this instance, to any considerable extent, for it may prove as unproductive as the others, in spite of all the good intentions of the friends interested in it. The only cause of failure, however, in any such case, is a lack of active, continuous effort and of persevering personal application by a suit-

able person or persons. It is exceedingly ^{kind} for Mr. May to assume any labor of this ~~kind~~ nature. I shall be very glad to see him here, and am pleased to hear that he is going to Washington, where he will have a chance to see Harry and Fanny.

Rhode Island never observes a State Fast, and so business went on as usual here yesterday. How bland and beautiful was the weather yesterday! In the afternoon, Frederick gave me a very extended ride in the suburbs of the city, East and West, and I enjoyed it to the brim. He called upon Thomas Davis, who did not know before that I was in the city. He had a very bad cold, was very hoarse, and looked miserably. Neither he nor George L. Clark has been re-elected to the Legislature. Paulina had gone out to ride. I shall call there again.

I shall not attempt to send you any butter, as George Henry says there is none at this time worth sending. William must step in at Boston market, and get the best that Grant has to offer. It is the best that can now be done.

The day before yesterday I took dinner with the Pitmans, and promised to take tea with them before leaving for Boston.

Last evening I took tea with the Randalls, and had a long chat with the old gentleman on national affairs. He is 79 years of age, and looking in good condition.

Wednesday evening I spent at Mr. Adie's, with Frederick and Julia. Mr. A. reminded me a good deal of Gerrit Smith in his looks, tone of voice, and laugh — a very pleasant gentleman. I met there Mr. William Brown & his wife.

You need not send me any clean clothes. I have enough for the present.

I do not know when I shall return. All day yesterday, and all last night, I have suffered great and continual pain from my arm. There is no change except for the worse. But I must persevere with electricity awhile longer.

Love to you all as one.

Your ever affectionate W. L. G.